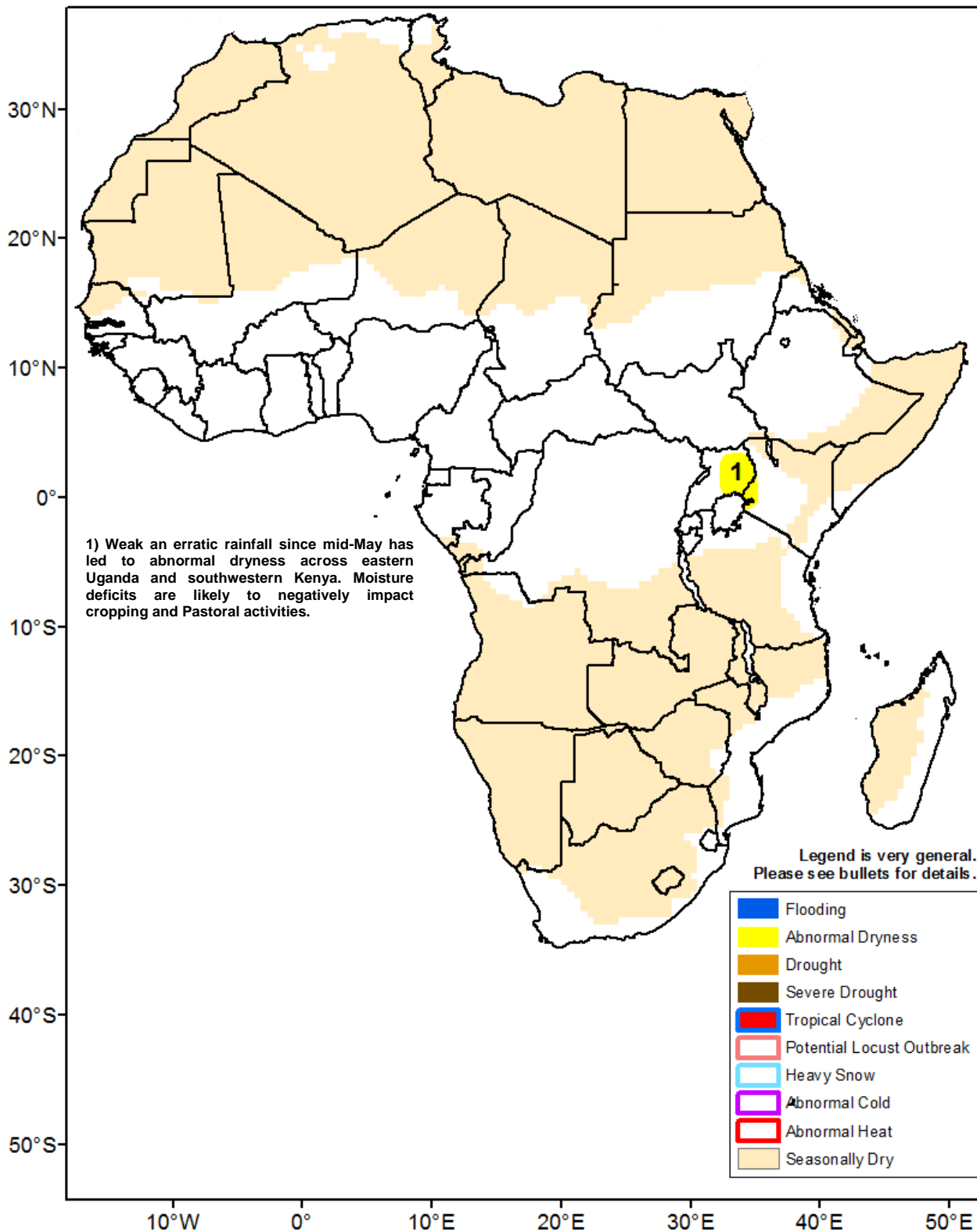




## Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook June 29 – July 5, 2017

- Above-normal rains continue to be widespread across western Africa.



## Ample rains continue over much of West Africa

Heavy rains once again proliferated through central West Africa during the last 7 days. Satellites estimated that more than 100mm of rain fell over many local areas of southern Guinea, Cote D'Ivoire, Togo, Benin, and Nigeria (**Figure 1**). Rainfall was near or above average for most other parts of the region as well. Rains arrived in earnest for much of eastern Senegal, and the Gambia where 100+mm were recorded. In addition, scattered showers were observed well north into Mauritania and northern Mali. While other areas enjoyed wet conditions, parts of central and eastern Nigeria received slightly suppressed rainfall for the week.

West Africa continues to experience a prolonged period of wetter-than-average rainfall. Analysis of current 30-day precipitation anomalies depicts positive rainfall anomalies greater than 50mm for many places (**Figure 2**). Embedded local areas, like those in western Mali, eastern Niger, Togo, and coastal parts of several gulf of Guinea countries, show even greater surpluses (>100mm). This surplus moisture will be beneficial to ground conditions for subsequent cropping activities, but could lead to flooding. In southern and western Nigeria rainfall performance has been slightly more erratic, which has led to some minor negative rainfall anomalies. Two Weeks of good, increased rains have greatly improved ground conditions and reduced moisture deficits in Liberia.

Models suggest that the period of enhanced rains over West Africa will continue for at least one more outlook period. The entire region can expect near or above-normal rainfall. The greatest rains are likely to be focused over the western half of the region. Total rainfall could easily exceed 100mm for some locations. Additional enhanced rainfall is likely to completely mitigate any remaining abnormal dryness, but in other more saturated regions could lead to flooding concerns.

## Anomalous wetness continues for many; another week of weak rains in Uganda.

The core of heavy rains shifted slightly to the east during the last 7 days. The heaviest rain (>50mm) was centered over western Ethiopia and neighboring Sudan according to satellite estimates. Rainfall totals of more than 10mm were widespread over much of the rest of Sudan and South Sudan. Light and erratic rains have been observed over southeastern South Sudan and parts of Uganda. The last 1-2 months have been extremely wet for Sudan, parts of South Sudan, and far western Ethiopia, ranking among the wettest 10% of seasons. As a result, flooding has reportedly damaged refugee camps in South Darfur, Sudan. Analysis of the latest 30-day precipitation anomalies suggests regions of Sudan and South Sudan received over 100mm more than their normal rainfall accumulation (**Figure 2**).

The forecast calls for seasonally heavy convective rains to continue over western Ethiopia during the upcoming outlook period. At the same time rain, is likely to be suppressed below normal for Sudan and neighboring locales –a welcome break for some areas.

**Note: The hazards outlook map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.**

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